

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 08912 151933Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 JUSE-00 FTC-01 MCT-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 COME-00 ACDA-12
EB-08 SY-05 USSS-00 HA-05 IO-13 A-01 OPR-02 CA-01
/115 W

-----106588 151937Z /72

R 151715Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2287

INFO AMCONSUL FLORENCE

AMCONSUL GENOA

AMCONSUL MILAN

AMCONSUL NAPLES

AMCONSUL PALERMO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 8912

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, SOCI, IT

SUBJECT: INCREASED TERRORIST ACTIVITY

REF: MILAN 0724

1. THE MAY 14 SHOOTING OF A BOLOGNA BUSINESSMAN BRINGS THE TOTAL OF INDUSTRIALISTS OR DC POLITICIANS QUOTE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE UNQUOTE BY THE RED BRIGADES AND RELATED TERRORIST GROUPS TO EIGHT PERSONS WOUNDED IN THE PAST ELEVEN DAYS. THE ATTACKS, WHICH FOLLOW THE FAMILIAR PATTERN, OF SHOOTING VICTIMS IN THE LEGS NEAR THEIR HOMES OR OFFICES, HAVE ALL OCCURRED IN NORTHERN ITALY, WITH FIVE IN MILAN ITSELF. THE WOUNDING OF THE 37 YEAR OLD ITALIAN DIRECTOR OF CHEMICAL BANK IN ITALY ON MAY 11 MARKS THE FIRST TERRORIST ATTACK ON AN EXECUTIVE OF AN AMERICAN MULTINATIONAL COOPERATION.

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2. THE NORTHERN ITALIAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY IS ALREADY ACCUSTOMED TO MAINTAINING A LOW PROFILE AMID RISING VIOLENCE AND RED BRIGADE THREATS AGAINST QUOTE SERVANTS OF THE MULTINATIONALIST STATE UNQUOTE. THE REACTION OF AMERICAN EXECUTIVES IN MILAN IS A MIXTURE OF BOTH RESIGNATION AND CONCERN.

3. THE DAY AFTER THE SHOOTING OF THE CHEMICAL BANK
EXECUTIVE, FIVE TERRORISTS SET FIRE TO AN ESTIMATED
1.2 MILLION DOLLARS' WORTH OF ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT AT
THE MILAN WAREHOUSE OF HONEYWELL INTERNATIONAL. THIS
WAS FOLLOWED BY THE BOMBING ON SATURDAY, MAY 13, OF
POWER LINES SUPPLYING A MAJOR ALFA ROMEO PLANT.
DESPITE CONDEMNATION FROM ALL QUARTERS AND EFFORTS TO
INCREASE PERSONAL AND PLANT SECURITY, THERE IS A GROWING
SENSE THAT TERRORISTS WILL CONTINUE TO BE CAPABLE OF
ATTACKING WHOMEVER THEY CHOOSE WHENEVER THEY CHOOSE TO
DO SO.GARDNER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 15 may 1978
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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